(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to improve and strengthen this station for the listeners of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA) : (a) Urdu Service of All India Radio is basically a service which is directed to Urdu-speaking audiences of West and North-West Indian sub-continent.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). In view of (a) above, this service is not expected to cover other areas inside the country. However, it has been the endeavour of All India Radio to extend coverage of this service to other areas subject to availability of financial resources.

Upgradation of Radio Station at Kanpur

1092. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the MW radio station at Kanpur is of very weak KW;

(b) whether Government propose to upgrade and strengthen this radio station for the benefit of adjoining districts of Kanpur;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) There is a 1 KW MW Transmitter at Kanpur, providing Vividh Bharati/Commercial Service.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Vividh Bharati Service, the principal carrier of Commercials, is made available on low power transmitters (except at the for metros) to restrict its reach. Enlarging the reach of Vividh Bharati, comprising light entertainment programmes, may adversely affect listenership to the purposeful, utility programmes broadcast on the primary channel. Moreover, the upgradation would necessitate upward revision of the advertisement rates on the Vividh Bharati Channel and my adversely affect utilisation of the Commercial Broadcasting Service.

Shortwave Transmitter of AIR at Aligarh

1093. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortwave transmitter of AIR at Aligarh for external services;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no such transmitter at Aligarh for local population;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are aware that there is enormous talent in Aligarh for AIR; and

(e) if so, what steps Government propose to take to provide a radio station at Aligarh for local people?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) AIR's approved 7th Five Year Plan includes a scheme to establish a local radio station at Aligarh with 2 x 3 KW FM Transmitters, Multi purpose Studio, Receiving Facilities and Staff Quarters. The work in this regard is in progress. On its completion, it would cater to the needs of the local people.

भारत में तिब्बती शरणार्थी

1094. श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्तमान में भारत में तिब्बती शरणार्थियों की कुल संख्या कितनी है ;

(ख) उनकी सहायता तथा सुरक्षा के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ; और

(ग) इस संबंध में औसतन कितना वार्षिक व्यय किया जाता है ?

विदेश मंत्री (श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल) : (क) लगभग 1 लाख ।

(ख) तिब्बती शरणार्थियों के निर्वाह और पुनर्वास पर ; तिब्बती स्कूल चलाने पर तथा उनकी संस्कृति को बनाए रखने पर भारत सरकार ने काफी धन खर्च किया है ।

(ग) तिब्बती शरणार्थियों पर अब तक लगभग 60 करोड़ रुपये खर्च किए जा चुके हैं और 1959 से इस पर औसतन 2 करोड़ रुपये हर वर्ष खर्च किए गए हैं ।

Firing across the line of actual control

1095. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pakistani troops opened fire at Indian positions on the line of actual control near the northern J & Kashmir border town on the night of 11th February, 1990;

(b) whether the Indian troops returned the fire;

(c) if so, the number of casualties due to exchange of firing;

(d) whether Government have lodged any protest with Pakistan in this regard; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Pakistani troops opened fire at Indian positions across the Line of Actual Control on 11 February, 1990 in the Uri sector of Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) There were no casualties as a result of the firing by Pakistani troops.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Pakistani warships in Sri Lakan waters

1096. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports about the presence of Pakistani warships in Sri Lankan waters; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.